NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

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PREMIUMS

Offered by the Essex Agricultural Society, in 1823.

The Committee of the Trustees appointed to propose objects for premiums, adverting to the original design of the institution—the improvement of the general husbandry of the county—have thought it advisable, at this time, to depart materially from what seems to have been a leading principle in all the Agricultural Societies of the country—that of offering premiums chiefly for certain specific articles of husbandry, instead of the combined improvements of entire farms.

Since the formation of the Essex Society, specific premiums have produced valuable effects; by demonstrating, that with high manuring, and good culture, some former usual crops may be doubled, trebled, and even quadrupled. But the important question is—not what small lots in or near market towns, and abundantly supplied with manures, may be made to yield; but how the productive powers of *farms* can be essentially increased: and this can be effected only by a better management in all articles of husbandry. With this in view, the Committee propose to *extend* the encouragement heretofore given for *general* improvements; and offer the following premiums.

I.—MANAGEMENT OF A FARM.

For the management of a farm, in its tillage, mowing, orcharding and pasturage: the quantity of land appropriated to each—their cultivation—the means and the manner of making, increasing, preserving and applying manures—their quantities—the respective crops and products—the quantity and management of the live stock—and the quantity of labor employed—to be detailed.

For the best - - - - -	$30
For the second best - - - -	25
For the third best - - - - -	20
For the fourth best - - - -	15

II.—DAIRY STOCK-SOILING.

For experiments in feeding milch cows on green crops, from the middle of June to the middle of October, by supplying them to the full with those crops, in their stables, without turning them to pasture. Feeding cattle in this manner is called *soiling*.

For the best, - - - - -	$20
For the second best, - - - -	15
For the third best, - - - - -	10

The whole process to be detailed.

REMARKS.

The green crops may be rye (sown the preceding year) oats, barley, millet, Indian corn, clover and various grasses. Any sorts of grain sown to produce fodder for soiling, after being harrowed in, should be rolled, to make the surface and the ground smooth for mowing. The clover and upland meadow grounds, destined for soiling, will be better for rolling, with a heavy roller, to make a smooth bottom, without which the mowing cannot be close; and if not close shaven, the thickest part of the grass will remain uncut.

If the soil be rich and the surface smooth, the grass may be cut when only three or four inches high, and will then yield a good swarth. Such ground well set with the grasses which produce what is known among us as English hay, and inclined to moisture, may in this manner be mown three or four times in a season. The cutting of the rye, oats, barley and millet should commence as soon as they will yield a good swarth, and be finished before they have passed the flowering state. If mown before they flower, they will shoot again; and if the growth be rich, yield second crops.

Indian corn will be well grown for soiling by the 10th or 15th of July; and will continue green, and in full sap until the last of August. And in order to continue a supply of this rich green food—to which probably no other vegetable of our country is equal, especially for milch cows—pieces of land may be planted in succession, so that some may be in full sap to the last of September, when, in Essex, frosts usually strike the blades, and greatly lessen their value.

If there be a piece of rich mowing land in the farm, its second or third crop will furnish green fodder to the middle or last of October. Perhaps late sown oats, hardier plants than Indian corn, may supply the place of grass. Pumpkins, also, during this month and the next, will furnish a most valuable food.

All the sorts of fodder above mentioned, like the young grasses of the spring, naturally dispose cattle to a degree of looseness, though probably without injuring them. But if any of them operate to an excess, a little good hay will furnish a useful corrective.

After November, potatoes, mangel wurtzel and carrots, added plentifully to their dry fodder, even if this be only barley, or oat straw, or wet or low ground meadow hay, will doubtless keep cows in milch till within a few weeks of their calving.* Cows, during the time of their going dry, and other stock at all times, fully supplied with ruta baga, or common turnips, with the same poor dry fodder, may be kept in high condition. In England, cattle intended for beef are often fattened on wheat straw and turnips, giving of the latter as many as they will eat. They commence feeding in this manner in autumn, and by the spring the cattle are fat for the market. The cattle thus fattened, and in so short a time, are of moderate sizes.

Rye, oats, barley and millet, when destined for soiling, should be sown twice as thick as when intended to ripen their seeds. In like manner, Indian corn may be planted in continued rows only so far apart as to admit a small plough in its culture, and with the plants only four or five inches apart in the rows. The surface of the ground should be smooth in the rows, so as to admit of mowing the corn.

The farmer who shall pasture some of his cows, and soil the others, will add to the value of the experiment, by keeping their milch separate, and noting their relative quantities from cows of equal goodness, and the quantity and quality of the butter made from each set.

* An observing farmer, long ago expressed to me the opinion, that cows should go dry five or six weeks before calving, to give time for the milk vessels to be distended, and the bag enlarged; in the language of farmers, for the springing of the bag. It was his opinion that the greater increase of milk after calving, would amply compensate the loss of going dry so long.

III.—THE DAIRY.

For the greatest quantity of good butter, in proportion to the number of cows producing it, (not fewer than four) made on any farm, from the 20th of May to the 20th of November, twenty-six weeks, and the quantity of butter averaging not less than seven pounds per week for each cow, - - - - $20

For the second greatest, - - - - 15

For the third greatest, - - - - 10

The kinds of food and the management of it to be detailed.

REMARKS.

The object of Agricultural institutions, as already observed, is *improvement*; and in Essex, none seems to be more wanted than in *milch cows*. If the society were to continue their premiums, during any length of time, merely for the greatest quantity of butter, they would not enforce any improvement in the quality of those animals. Seven pounds of butter a week, for each cow, is less than half what the Oakes cow of Danvers produced, in the same time. The seven pounds a week, therefore, are very attainable by every farmer who will *improve his breed of cows*, and *feed them to the full* with juicy and highly nourishing food. The Committee trust they do not entertain a groundless hope, that the premiums here offered will have claimants; and that in some future years, the Trustees will be justified in confining these premiums to cows yielding ten, twelve, and fourteen pounds of butter a week, for twenty six weeks in the year.

IV.—TURNING IN GREEN CROPS AS A MANURE.

For the best experiment of turning in green crops as a manure, on not less than one acre, - $15

For the second best, - - - - 10

For the third best, - - - - - 5

REMARKS.

The claimants must give a particular account of their respective processes, and the results. The object aimed at is, to ascertain whether land can be manifestly improved by turning under green crops, and to what degree enriched. Each experimenter will follow his own judgment in his process; but the following intimations may merit his attention.

The turning in of green crops is a very ancient, though not a very general practice. Its utility has lately been called in question. Hence the desire to bring it to the test of fair experiment.

Take an acre of land, so far exhausted at the last crop as to render it inexpedient to introduce another without a good manuring. Plough it in the spring, and sow it with oats, barley, buck-wheat, or millet—and not be sparing of the seed. When the crop shall be full grown, but still in blossom, plough it in, and sow it again. When this second crop shall be full grown, plough it in. The next year repeat this process—again ploughing in two crops; the last by the beginning of October. It may

then be sown with winter rye, to produce a crop of grain at the next harvest—sowing five or six pecks, because sown so late.—Or it may lie till the ensuing May, and then be planted with Indian corn. The product, compared with the last of the same acre, prior to the commencement of the experiment, especially if a crop of the same kind, will show the value of the green crop ploughed in.

ANOTHER MODE.

The acre being divided lengthways into two equal parts, plough the whole uniformly in the spring. Sow on one part two bushels of oats or barley, or a bushel of buck-wheat, or three or four half pecks of millet; and harrow the whole acre alike, and so as duly to cover the seed which has been sown. When the crop has attained its full growth, but is still in blossom, plough it in; ploughing the vacant half acre at the same time, and to the same depth. Sow the first half acre again immediately, and harrow in the seed, harrowing the other half in the same manner. The next year repeat the same process. Then the whole acre may be sown with winter rye (3 pecks on each half;) or the land may lie (as in the process first proposed) to be planted with Indian corn the ensuing spring. In the third year, the crop put in must stand to ripen. The produce of each half acre (both being sown or planted, and cultivated in the same manner) must be kept by itself, and accurately measured. The difference between them will show the value of the green crops ploughed in.

Every experimenter will perceive that no manure whatever is to be used—the crops sown, and the weeds ploughed under, excepted.

Until ploughs constructed for the purpose of completely turning in green crops shall be introduced, it will be necessary to roll flat the green crop before ploughing, or it cannot be duly covered. Perhaps a small roller, or what is called a *foot*, only of a large size, may be attached to the fore end of the plough beam, to press down the crop to the ground, and thus cause it to be effectually covered. Such a roller, or foot, will serve as a gauge for the depth of the furrow in which the crop shall be buried.

V.—CIDER.

For the best cider, the pure juice of the apple, which shall be made in the present year, not less than eight barrels, - - - - $10
For the second best - - - - - 5

The greater part of the cider may be sold, if the owner please, only reserving one cask, of which a sample is to be produced at the Society's public exhibition in 1824; with good evidence that the casks sold were equal to that reserved. If sold, the claimant will state when, to whom, and at what prices; and describe his whole process in collecting, sorting and keeping the apples, in making the cider, conducting the fermentation and fining, if any artificial fining be used, and in preserving the cider in the cask.

For some information of an eligible process in making and managing cider, the Committee refer to the intimations contained in the Explanatory Observations subjoined to the list of premiums for 1821.

VI.—FOREST TREES.

The same premiums that were offered in 1821 and 1822; to which intended claimants are referred. And they are desired to give notice of their proposed claims to the Secretary, John W. Proctor, Esq. in Danvers, before the first of July next.

VII.—POTATOES.

Numerous experiments have been made, to increase the products of this root, and premiums have been awarded for the greatest; but no measures for improving their *qualities* have fallen under the observation of the Committee. It is well known that the seeds in the *apples* or *green balls*, which grow on the tops of potatoe stalks, will produce potatoes, which, planted for one year, and their produce a second year, will yield well sized potatoes. It is from these small seeds that all the varieties of potatoes have been produced. It was in this way that a distinguished farmer in Ireland—a country so famous for the culture of potatoes—obtained excellent kinds. From the numerous seeds in every ball, a variety of potatoes may be expected; some early, some late in ripening—some yielding small, and others abundant products—some watery, and others mealy and well flavored.

Expectations have often been formed of raising potatoes of the best qualities, by planting those brought from the British Isles; but disappointment is the common result: the products of the first year have scarcely borne a resemblance to the fine originals. It is very possible, and not improbable, that some sorts superior to any in cultivation among us, may be obtained from the small seeds found in the green balls. To encourage the necessary experiments, the following premiums are offered:

For the best and most valuable potatoes, taking them for all in all, raised from the seed of the apples or green balls, samples of which shall be produced at the Society's public exhibition in 1825, - - - - $10
For the second best, - - - 7
For the third best, - - - - 5
The claimants are to detail their whole processes, and state the results.

REMARKS.

Some sorts may be of superior excellence for their mealiness and flavor, but moderate in their product; some not so well flavored, may be very abundant in quantity, and highly valuable for feeding live stock; some very early ripe; some growing compactly, and so expeditiously harvested. The sorts which, combining most of these good qualities, shall be judged the most valuable, will be preferably entitled to the premiums, without excluding claims for potatoes of highly superior goodness, although less productive. To facilitate the execution of these novel experiments, the Committee offer the following

DIRECTIONS.

The experimenter, having determined with what sorts of potatoes he will make his trials, will gather the balls when the stalks, by their drying, indicate a ripeness in the seeds; and if they are not quite soft, so that the seeds will easily separate from the pulp, they may be laid by (out of the way of frost) until the pulp becomes soft. Then mash them with the hand, and with the aid of water separate and wash the seeds clean. These, being dried, may be preserved like garden seeds, until the ensuing spring. Then sow them in rows, in a bed of rich garden earth, just as small garden seeds are sown. The rows may be ten inches apart; and the plants, when grown enough to be thinned, may stand four or five inches asunder. Keep them clear of weeds, and stir the earth between the rows. The supernumerary plants arising from the thinnings, may be transplanted, if needed, to another bed.

In Autumn, or when the stalks become so far dried that the roots cease to grow, dig these up carefully, so that the potatoes growing on the same plant may be saved by themselves; for it may happen that each distinct plant may produce a sort different from the rest. The bulbs, or roots, of the first year, will be very small. In the next spring choosing a piece of rich ground, plant each sort in a hill by itself. The product of this year will furnish bulbs big enough to be boiled. And this will be the time for selecting the best. Many sorts may not deserve any further attention; but some may be of excellent qualities, as to time of ripening, texture, flavor and productiveness. Their several qualities should be carefully noted; and again be separately preserved and planted another year; when they will probably have attained all the perfection of which their natures admit.

Lancashire, a western county of England, as well as Ireland, is distinguished for producing good potatoes. Ireland is remarkable for the moisture of its climate; and the western is more moist than the eastern coast of England. Both are many degrees farther north than Massachusetts; and are exempt from the burning heats and droughts of our summers. These circumstances suggest the propriety of our planting potatoes on moist and cool grounds; thus assimilated, in some measure, to the soils of Ireland and Lancashire.

VIII.—PLOUGHS AND PLOUGHING.

Some ploughs are of easier draught, and make better work, than others; and some oxen draw or plough extremely well without a driver. The design of ploughing matches is to attain all possible perfection in both. The premiums, therefore, under this head, will be confined to efficient ploughs of easiest draught, drawn each by one yoke of oxen without a driver, ploughing one quarter of an acre, and turning the best furrow, at least five inches deep, and in the shortest time compatible with a continuance of the labor to complete the ploughing of an acre, if that were required.

For the best plough, team and work, - - $15
For the second best, - - - 12
For the third best, - - - - - 8

IX.—SUMAC.

The premium for this article is continued of course, as the claim is to be presented the ensuing autumn.

GENERAL REMARK.

The Committee repeat—and desire it may be remembered—that premiums claimed are not to be awarded, unless the subjects of the claims are decidedly meritorious. That is, the respective experiments must be so conducted as to exhibit results worthy of encouragement and imitation—or decisive of a question of which the solution is sought.

Where a premium has heretofore been awarded to any person, he is not to receive another for the same object. And where any plough has obtained a premium, another is not to be awarded for the same plough, nor for one of the same mould. Some important improvement can alone justify an appropriation of the Society's funds, in cases of this nature.

To allow time for enterprising farmers to

make preparations for becoming competitors for the premiums now offered, the Committee are of opinion that there should be no public exhibition in the present year. The disposable funds of the Society will thereby be increased, to reward successful candidates for premiums the year following. But whether there shall, or shall not, be a public exhibition in the present year, the Society, at their approaching annual meeting, will determine. As, however, some claims were to be made in the present year, these may be sent to the Secretary of the Society, to be laid before the Trustees, for their decision thereon.

The Committee propose no premiums for the greatest quantity of any kind of crops. The experiments already made have demonstrated what is practicable; and if those known examples of success are insufficient to stimulate general exertions, the usual premiums must prove ineffectual.

Essex not being a county for grazing and fattening cattle much beyond the farmer's own wants, this article also is discontinued in the list of premiums.

As to the usual live-stock—working oxen, milch cows, young cattle, sheep and swine—they are to be considered as comprehended in the Management of a Farm, additionally to the provisions under the heads No. III, & No. VIII, relating to the Dairy and Ploughing Matches; and to the following article.

X.—FOR IMPROVING OUR NATIVE BREED OF NEAT CATTLE.

The first most celebrated breeder of live stock, in England, was the late Robert Bakewell; to whom, Mr. Arthur Young says, that country is indebted for *just principles of breeding*. And a later eminent breeder says, that "before Mr. Bakewell's days, we had no criterion but size; nothing would please but elephants and giants." And "he declares that Bakewell enabled those who followed his ideas to produce two pounds of mutton, where only one was produced before." The following were the points to which Bakewell specially attended:—"fine forms, small bones, and a true disposition to make ready fat: which indeed is inseparable from small bones, or rather fine bones and fine forms, or true symmetry of the parts."

But Bakewell's prime object, in improving cattle and sheep, was to render his animals most profitable in *beef* and *mutton*. And he succeeded in obtaining forms indicating *strength of constitution—a disposition to fatten, and at an early age—weightiness in the most valuable parts—with lightness of offals.* If there was deficiency in any point, he would cross his animal with one that was amply supplied in that part; and if any point of his animal was too heavy, by an opposite cross he would reduce the superfluity. By such management, diligently pursued, he at length gave to his stock the shape and qualities he desired.

So far as we breed domestic animals in this county—and the observation will apply to our whole state, and generally to all New England, we must extend our views beyond *beef* and *mutton;* and with the former combine *milk*, *butter* and *cheese*, and a fitness for *labor;* and together with *mutton* aim at the greatest quantity of the *most useful wool.*

If Bakewell could alter the shape of his cattle, and lay flesh and fat on the most valuable joints—as was the fact—can it be doubted that, by similar attention, the quantity and quality of the milk of our cows may be increased and enriched? But to obtain this improvement, calves should be raised from such cows only as excel in these two particulars.

It seems to be the best opinion, that of the different breeds of live stock, those of the largest size are not the most profitable. The breed of cattle, however, should be such as to produce oxen a single pair of which, at their full growth, should have strength sufficient, on proper tillage land, with well formed ploughs, to open a furrow to the depth of five, or even of six inches. As to the form of the different kinds of live stock, an eminent naturalist and farmer in England has thus expressed his opinion:—"The more deep and capacious the chest, and the shorter and lower any animal is, relative to its weight, the better adapted it will be to live and fatten on little food, the more labor it will go through; and I have always found the most short-legged oxen to be the best laborers."

The foregoing rules of breeding, and description of good live stock, being the result of the experience of eminent English farmers and breeders, merit the particular attention of all who shall attempt to improve upon our present races of domestic animals; and are here introduced to furnish them with useful information. And in the hope and expectation that such improvements will be undertaken, the following premiums are offered:

To the person who shall produce at the public exhibition of the Society, in the year 1828, any number of milch cows, not less than four, of our native breeds, showing manifest improvements therein, by an important increase in the *quantity*, and maintaining, at least, if not improving, the *good quality* of milk—the latter to be tested by the quantities of butter made in the six months next preceding the exhibition—

For the best,	$30
For the next best,	25
For the third best,	20

For the best pair of working oxen, or well trained steers, improved on the principles above stated, and exhibited at the same time—

For the best pair,	$20
For the second best,	15
For the third best,	10

It will readily be admitted that our live stock demand great improvements; and no one will question whether such improvements are practicable. They ought then to be attempted. It will avail little to bestow premiums merely for the best that shall be produced; for such premiums might be given for a century, without effecting any real improvements; and thus, as to live stock, defeat the object for which the Society was formed. The known excellency of some oxen and cows, of our native breed, give assurance to judicious and enterprising farmers, that their numbers may be multiplied by observing the well-tried rules of breeding. The Oakes cow has probably not been surpassed in any country. By some she was judged to be under the size of our common cows. Her short legs probably gave rise to that opinion. There are, however, many larger cows in the county.

The best bulls and cows do not always produce a progeny equal to the parents; but experience has shown, that from such only the highest improvements may be expected. The same observation applies to all other kinds of live stock.

Farmers who shall effect great improvements in live stock, while they render a lasting benefit to their country, will lay a foundation for advancing their own interest, in the demand, and consequently increased prices, of their improved breeds.

Reflecting farmers, who shall become candidates for premiums, will be aware, that if their exertions should not obtain the honor of a prize, they will not pass unrewarded; as all the improvements they make will either give them immediate profits, or add to the value of their farms. The direct object of premiums is not to excite merely trials of skill, but to add to the solid interests of farming; and he, who shall show how we may add most to that solid interest, will obtain the highest prize.

In behalf and by order of the Committee,

T. PICKERING.

Salem, January 22, 1823.

Pope, who, whatever his good qualities might be, certainly was not much troubled with good nature, was one evening at Burton's Coffee-house, when he and a set of literati were poring over a manuscript of the Greek comic poet Aristophanes, in which they found a passage they could not comprehend. As they talked pretty loudly, a young man who stood by the fire, heard their conference, and begged that he might be permitted to look at the passage. "O!" said Pope, sarcastically, "by all means, pray let the young gentleman look at it." On which he took up the book, and considering a while, said, that there only wanted a note of interrogation to render the whole intelligible, which was really the case. "And pray master," said Pope, piqued perhaps at being outdone, "what is a note of interrogation?" "A note of interrogation," replied the youth, with a look of the utmost contempt, "is a little crooked thing that asks questions!" 'Tis said, however, that Pope was so delighted with this witticism, that he forgave the sarcasm on his person.

A sportsman, by touching his horse near the withers with his whip, taught him to kneel immediately: when shooting, and a dog came to a point, he made the horse kneel, and persuaded those present that the horse was an *excellent pointer.* A gentleman having purchased the gelding, was fording a driver with him, when, having touched his withers, he was true to the touch, down he dropped in the stream, and soused his new master in the water. The latter in a great passion, asked his former owner what he meant by selling him a horse that played him such a trick in the water? "Oh!" said the other, "you bought him as a pointer, and at the time he went on his knees he was *pointing at a salmon.*"

The Reserve.—A gentleman showing his friend his curiosities, &c. in his gallery, on the other's praising them all very much, he gave him a choice of any one of them as a present. The stranger fixed his election on a tablet, in which the ten commandments were written in letters of gold. "You must excuse me there, replied the gentleman, those I am bound to *keep.*"

ADDRESS

OF THE HON. S. HALE, DELIVERED BEFORE THE CHESHIRE (N. H.) AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, OCTOBER, 1822.

Concluded from our last, p. 285.

I have said that our good soils have been exhausted of those properties which rendered them fertile. Reason, therefore, teaches, that the art and industry of man should, in the first place, be directed towards replenishing them with similar properties. This is done by means of manure, and to acquire a knowledge of the best modes of making, preserving, and using it, should be the principal study of the farmer. The degree of attention applied to this branch of husbandry distinguishes the judicious from the ignorant and unskilful agriculturist; and in this, care and skill are more requisite, and are more certainly and bountifully rewarded than in any other. No farmer should be satisfied with the quantity of manure necessarily made by his stock of cattle. It is in his power to obtain double that quantity; and he may rest assured that, for the trouble of obtaining it, he will be amply remunerated. If he have ordinary advantages, he may obtain that which will be fully worth one dollar per load, at an expense, which, every thing calculated, shall not exceed half that sum.

If the farmers of this country would but peruse the Agricultural publications of Great Britain, they would be astonished at the amount of time and expense which is there devoted to this branch of husbandry. They would see long and minute directions for preparing barn yards in the manner best fitted to make and preserve manure. They would see instructions given for making compost heaps in the fields and by the side of swamps, many of which cost one, and some even two thousand dollars each. They would learn in what manner the hog pen and poultry yard are made subservient to the same purpose. They would learn to their astonishment that after the usual supply is obtained from all these sources, it is not unusual for the farmer who cultivates three hundred acres, to expend three or four thousand dollars in procuring and purchasing marle, ashes, lime, &c. to be applied upon his farm. In that country, no land is cultivated without manure bountifully applied—and with manure almost any land is made fertile and profitable.

I do not refer to the customs of the English farmer for the purpose of recommending them to your strict imitation. In many points of view, his situation is different from yours. The United States contain too little surplus capital, and the demand for the productions of the soil is not sufficient, to authorise such extraordinary expenditures. I refer to them to shew you in how high estimation is held the article of manure among farmers distinguished for their sagacity. When your attention is once fixed, and your curiosity stimulated, you will, I have no doubt, select and adopt such of the modes of making it as are best adapted to your circumstances. Servile imitation is ever to be avoided. It is perhaps more injurious in Agricultural than in any other pursuit; for no two farms nor two seasons can be precisely alike. Every farmer ought to rely mainly upon his own judgment, but to render his judgment worthy to be relied upon, it should be improved by reading, inquiry, and observation.

The cheapest and most simple mode of increasing the quantity of manure ordinarily made in the barn yard is, perhaps, to carry into it mud from the swamps, ponds, and ditches, and turf from the side of old fences, and from the road side. In this manner excellent manure may be obtained at little expense. The mud from swamps and ponds consists principally of decomposed vegetables. It is entirely inert and insufficient until it has been made to ferment by exposing it to a certain degree of heat, or by mixing it with the putrescent substances which abound in the yard. It is then nearly as valuable as that which is thrown from the stable, and especially if so placed as to absorb the liquid manure which would otherwise be lost.

The best mode of preserving the strength of manure is an object worthy of more attention than it has usually received in this country. It cannot be doubted that much of it descends with the rain into the earth, and that much evaporates into the atmosphere. To prevent both, the utmost care should be taken. To guard against the former, the farmers of Flanders, who surpass even the English in attention to this branch of husbandry, pave their yards, which are made hollow in the centre, with a composition of clay and gravel. To guard against the loss of strength by evaporation, they sometimes, placing their manure in heaps, cover it carefully with a coat of loam, which becomes itself manure; and sometimes erect sheds over it to protect it from the rays of the sun. These modes are suggested for your consideration. But I cannot forbear to remark, that the practice of permitting small heaps to remain for a long time in the field, is an obvious proof of careless and unskilful husbandry.

The state in which barn yard manure should be applied to the land is a question which has lately been considerably agitated. It is the opinion of some that it should be kept over one season, and not be used until it has arrived at an advanced stage of decomposition. It is the opinion of others, that it ought to be applied in its green state; or in other words, that the whole of it, every spring, should be removed from the yard and used on the land. It appears to me that the latter opinion has the strongest reasons in its favor. The quantity would then be much greater. The fumes that escape in the process of putrefaction and decomposition, which are highly efficacious in promoting vegetation, would not then be lost. It would suffer no injury from drenching rains nor from a burning sun. The crops, soon or late, would feel all its influence. The effects the first year might not be so perceptible, but they would continue longer. This opinion is supported by the authority of late eminent writers on the subject of Agriculture. Whether it has the sanction of long and extensive experience I am not able to say. It certainly deserves the attention of those who are not opposed to all innovations and improvements in Agriculture.

The swamps which abound in many parts of our country, are generally considered of but little value. Many of them, however, are capable of being made the most productive land. For many centuries, the rains have carried into them the soil from the uplands. The winds have borne thither the leaves of trees. Numerous plants, luxuriantly growing, and yearly decaying, have added to the depth and richness of the soil. To these swamps I wish to direct the attention of farmers. Whenever it is found possible to drain them, the natural outlet should be deepened, or a ditch should be dug through the bank where the descent is greater. It is essential that the bottom of this ditch should be at least three feet lower than the surface of the swamp. Its width, especially if the swamp contain many acres, should not be less at top than 4 or 5 feet. One season or more should then elapse before any thing further is done. In the mean time the swamp will have become sensibly drier and firmer. Let the ditch then be extended into the centre or lowest part; and should it appear necessary, let small ditches be dug, leading to other low parts from the main ditch. If the land be covered with timber or bushes, the usual mode of chopping and burning may then be adopted. Should the swamp continue too wet, let it be encircled by a ditch near its outer border and deep enough to cut off the springs which run into it; but this should not be done unless obviously necessary, as it will prevent the swamp from receiving annual accessions to its fertility from the hills around it. Those who have never witnessed the effect of draining will be astonished at the difference which in two or three years will be produced. Cattle will find a firm footing where before a man could not walk. All the operations of husbandry can be conveniently and safely carried on. With manure, crops of corn, and without it crops of grass can be obtained larger than uplands generally yield. Every year will render the land more valuable. Tillage, by exposing the soil to the warmth of the sun, and manure by producing some degree of fermentation, will hasten its improvement.

It is admitted that the process of reclaiming such swamps is generally tedious and sometimes expensive; but it is believed that in all cases a full remuneration is certain. And besides the individual advantage produced, the appearance of the country will be highly improved, for nothing presents a more delightful prospect than smooth and gently descending hollows covered with luxuriant vegetation. And the public interest will be promoted by what will amount in effect to an extensive and valuable addition to our territory.

Low and wet lands, to which the epithet swampy could not well be applied, will also receive great benefit from draining. Too much water is quite as injurious as too little, to all our valuable crops. And often a ditch may be made to answer the double purpose of draining and enclosing land. Whether draining is resorted to in all cases where it would be useful, is a question well worthy the consideration of the farmers of this country.

The suggestions to which you have listened, my fellow citizens, have been offered with the greatest diffidence. I am well aware that most of you are much better acquainted than I can be, with the subjects to which your attention has been invited; and that little has been communicated which was not before known to you all. If, however, I have impressed one important truth more strongly upon your minds, I shall not have spoken in vain. Truly gratified shall I feel, if what I have said shall render your arduous labors more profitable to yourselves, or more useful to your country.

THE FARMER.

BOSTON:—SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 1823.

The Farmer's and Gardener's Remembrancer.

APRIL.

Insects.—The period is approaching or has already arrived, in which it behoves every farmer, gardener, and house keeper to declare a war of extermination against worms, bugs, and other mischievous and devouring insects. If the Lords of the lower world can devise no means for repelling the attacks of those little plunderers, they must even be contented to divide their substance with their puny partners, and not only maintain a host of creeping and flying tenants, who consume the products of human industry, without paying rent, or rendering either homage or service, but admit some of the nauseous intruders to their bed and board.

To describe all, or the greater part of the troublesome and mischievous beings, which belong to this department of animated nature, and the remedies against the evils which they inflict, would require folio volumes, and as much transcend our limits as our knowledge and means of information. We shall therefore confine ourselves to such as are most common, and most injurious in their operations, and would premise, that the remedies which we prescribe against the ravages of one kind of insect, will frequently be found effectual against every other sort.

Among the substances, which are either offensive or fatal to all kinds of insects, may be numbered elder, especially of the dwarf kind, tobacco, quicklime, lime water, soot, unleached wood ashes, strong lie, tar or turpentine, or water impregnated with those substances, common salt finely pulverized, brine, old urine, &c. &c. Boiling water is, likewise, an effectual and sometimes an expedient bug and worm destroyer. We have known beds or plats in gardens, well scalded previous to sowing them with the seeds intended for them with perfect success against worms, grubs, and every species of insect, which had its habitation in the plat, to which the boiling water was applied. This operation, if thoroughly performed, cannot fail to destroy not only every reptile within reach of its influence, but those eggs or nits which are lodged in the soil, and are teeming with future mischief. It would be well after a bed has been well scalded to enclose it with slips of boards, bark, or some other suitable material to prevent the access of insects from its neighborhood. Hills intended for cabbages, cucumbers, melons, squashes, &c. &c. after having been scalded, and sometimes merely carefully dug over and inspected, have been surrounded with strips of white birch bark, and remained impregnable to every kind of creeping thing. If this defence is covered over the top with a strip of gauze or muslin the plant is of course secured against the winged tribes. It would no doubt be a good plan, when boiling water is applied as before mentioned to boil a few elder roots and perhaps tobacco stalks with the water, that the worms may have the benefit of the decoction.

Care should be taken, in the application of some of the foregoing remedies not to destroy the plants instead of, or together with the insects which prey upon them. The old editions of Deane's New England Farmer recommended the application of strong brine to cabbages, in order to destroy lice and other insects, but if the brine be *too strong* it will kill the vegetable as well as the insect. Quick lime and even strong wood ashes may also injure young and tender vegetables. The safest way is to apply such caustic and corroding substances to the soil, some time before the seed is put into the ground. Or they may be used while vegetables are growing, provided they are placed near without touching them. The juice of elder or a pretty strong decoction of elder (elder tea, as some would call it,) we believe is an effectual remedy against all or nearly all insects, and will not injure any plant. Fall-ploughing and elder juice we should depend upon principally in gardening as antidotes to insects. As insects are often introduced into gardens by means of dung used as manure, it might, perhaps, be well, in some instances to *leach* such manure, or dilate it in water, and apply the liquid part alone to a garden. This would be somewhat troublesome, but Sir John Sinclair says it is practised by farmers in Switzerland even in field cultivation, and the straw that is washed, is afterwards used as manure for potatoes. If boiling water be used in leaching the manure, the insects, together with their spawn, would hardly survive the operation. So much for insects in general; we shall mention some particular kinds, in our future essays under this head, with an intention of attending to them, before the season in which their ravages are to be dreaded, and can be best guarded against.

On the choice of Seeds.—"The way to try seed is this. Put a small quantity of it in *lukewarm* water, and let the water be four or five inches deep. A mug or basin, will do, but a large tumbler *glass* is best; for then you can *see* the bottom as well as top. Some seeds, such as those of cabbage, radish and turnip, will, if good, go to the bottom at once. Cucumber, Melon, Lettuce, Endive, and many others require a few minutes. Parsnip and carrot, and all the *winged* seeds require to be washed by your fingers in a little water, and well *wetted* before you put them into the glass; and the carrot should be *rubbed* so as to get off part of the *hairs*, which would otherwise act as the feathers do as to a duck. The seed of Beet and Mangel Wurtzel are in a *case* or *shell*. The rough things that we sow are not the *seeds*, but the cases in which the seeds are contained, each case containing from one to *five* seeds. Therefore the trial by water is not, as to these two seeds, *conclusive*, though if the seed be very good, it will sink in water, after being in the glass an hour. And, as it is a matter of such great importance, that every seed should grow in a case where the plants stand so far apart; as gaps in roots of Beet and Mangel Wurtzel are so very injurious, the best way is to reject all seed that will not sink, case and all, after being put into warm water and remaining there an hour.

"But seeds of all sorts, are, sometimes, if not always, part sound and part unsound; and as the former is not to be rejected on account of the latter, the *proportion* of each should be ascertained, if a separation be not made. Count then a hundred seeds, taken promiscuously, and put them into water as before directed. If fifty sink and fifty swim half your seed is bad and half good; and so in proportion as to other numbers of sinkers and swimmers. There *may* be plants, the sound seeds of which will *not sink*; but I *know of none*. If to be found in any instance, they would, I think, be found in those of the Tulip tree, the Ash, the Birch and Parsnip, all of which are furnished with so large a portion of wing. Yet all these, if *sound*, will sink, if put into *warm* water, with the wet worked a little into the wings first. I incline to the opinion that we should try seeds as our ancestors tried witches; not by fire but by water; and that, following up their practice we should reprobate and destroy all that do not *readily* sink."*

Asparagus Beds.—These should be completely loosened with a fork to a moderate depth as soon as the frost is out of the ground; but care must be taken not to go too deep, so as to wound the crowns of the roots. They should then be raked even before the buds begin to advance. "This plant is found growing naturally on the borders of salt marshes, and even upon such marshes. This is considered to be its natural situation; and this fact has led to the employment of salt as a manure to it with very good effect. To a bed fifty feet by six, a bushel of salt may be safely applied before the plants start in the spring."†

Beets may be sown as soon as the ground is fit to receive the seeds. The rows a foot apart and the plants should be left eight inches apart in the rows. Mr. Cobbett advises to soak the seed four days and nights in rain water before it is sowed. It should be put in about two inches deep, well covered and the earth pressed pretty hard upon it. "The ground should be rich, but not fresh dunged. Ashes of wood, or compost mould is best; and the digging ought to be very deep, and all the clods broken into fine earth; because the clods turn the point of the root aside, and make the point short, or forked. *Fresh dung*, which, of course lies in unequal quantities in the ground, invites the tap root, or some of the side roots to it, and thus causes a short or forked beet." The Mangel Wurtzel may be cultivated much in the same manner, excepting the seeds may be further apart. We believe Col. Powell's method (described page 276 of our paper,) equal to any which can be adopted.

Cabbage.—Set out cabbage stumps as soon as the frost is out of the ground. It is said in the Domestic Encyclopœdia that "early cabbages may be procured by the following mode. In the spring as soon as the sprouts on the cabbage stalks have grown to the length of a plant fit for setting, cut them out with a small slice of the stalk, about two inches long; and if the season permit, plant them in a garden, and the usual care will produce good cabbages." The seed of cabbages should be sowed in the open ground in rows six inches distance. They may likewise be sown in autumn and in hot beds, but we have not room to state every possible variety in the mode of cultivating plants; our object being to mention merely the simplest and most economical. With regard to transplanting, &c. we shall say something in due season.

Carrot.—Dr. Deane observed "I have found by long experience that carrots should be sowed early. The last week in April is late enough, when intended for the feeding of cattle; and they may be sowed earlier, if the ground

* Cobbett's American Gardener.

† Deane's N. E. Farmer; Wells & Lilly's edition.

be in good order, and so dry as to be made light and loose. The earliest sown will be the largest, and, in the northern parts of the country, nearly as tender and as good as if sown later." Mr. Cobbett states that "the same season, same soil, same manure, same preparation for sowing, same inter-cultivation, same time of taking up, and mode of preserving the crop all belong to the carrot which are used with the beet. Some fine roots may be carefully preserved to plant out for seed in the spring; and the seed should be taken only from the *centre* seed stalks of the carrots, for that is the finest. The mark of a good kind is *deep* red color of the top. The paler ones are degenerate, and the *yellow* ones are fast going back to the wild carrot."

PARSNIP.—This plant may be cultivated in the same manner with beets and carrots. In England they are frequently raised by field culture, and by some are said to yield more and better food for stock or swine than the carrot or almost any other root.

RADISH should be sown thin in little drills six inches asunder, as early as possible in the spring, and a little bed every three weeks during the summer. As they are uncertain in their growth, it has been recommended to put in the seeds between rows of other plants; and they are so soon pulled up that they will not incommode the plants among which they grow.

PLANTING ON RIDGES.—This practice seems to be less generally approved of than formerly. Col. Powell, of Philadelphia, condemns it, (see N. E. Farmer, p. 277.) It is, we believe, less practised in England than it has been, although the moisture of the climate in Great Britain would seem to make it more proper for that country than for ours.

PREMIUMS OFFERED BY THE ESSEX AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The article with the above title, with which we have commenced this day's paper, will reward a diligent perusal, not only of those who wish to become competitors for the premiums thus offered, but of every other person, who feels an interest in the theory or practice of agriculture. The variation from the usual objects of such donations appears to us to be judicious, and calculated to give new and profitable directions to the pursuits of the husbandman. The "Remarks" which accompany the statements of premiums, (as might well be expected from the eminent and scientific agriculturist, whose name is subjoined) will assist very materially in attaining the objects specified; and experiments made in accordance with those remarks, and detailed with accuracy, will add greatly to the general stock of agricultural knowledge.

Heligoland Beans.—A writer in the American Farmer, vol. v, p. 11, says: "Farmers are frequently imposed on, by those who first offer rare seeds for sale, and I generally make experiments on a small scale: if I find the article not valuable, or curious, I discard it; for instance, the Heligoland bean was puffed off, as a very valuable field bean, producing very abundantly. I procured two pints, (at the rate of sixty four dollars per bushel.) I planted them carefully in good ground, expecting to make enough to plant an acre or two, but was disappointed; I planted them two years, and concluded I had been imposed on. It is not necessary to give the character of this bean, as I believe all who have planted it have discarded it; I think it worthless in the extreme." We should like to know if this bean has been tried and condemned in the northern states, as we fully concur with a remark on this subject by the Editor of the Am. Farmer, viz. "It is perhaps more incumbent on us to report when the result is unfavorable than when it is promising—where is the benefit of experiments if the result be not made known? What would we say of the Pilot, who being wrecked on an unknown shoal or rock, would refuse to anchor a buoy as a signal of danger to his brother mariner? yet we fear it is too much the fashion to *suppress a knowledge of failures*, in cases of new and unsuccessful processes."

Large Animals.—An ox, owned by Capt. Gilman, of Exeter, N. H. was lately killed and slaughtered in Portsmouth. The animal weighed alive 2420 lbs. the quarters 1753 lbs.——A hog brought in from Berwick on the same day weighed 754 lbs.; he was raised by William Smith, and purchased by Mr. Edmonds.

American Alum.—Samples of alum and Roman vitriol have been manufactured in Salem, Mass. which were forwarded to Professor Silliman, of Yale College, and are said by him to surpass any thing of the kind, which he had ever seen. "The works in Salem (says the Salem Observer,) give constant employment to nearly 20 men, and are under the management of Mr. Joshua Upham, a very capable and judicious chemist."

Cultivation of Grapes.—A correspondent in the American Farmer communicates the following method of propagating the Grape vine: Take a cutting of three eyes, and make a place by removing the earth, the same as you would to plant Indian corn in a hill, and lay in two cuttings flat at the bottom, of three eyes each, and cover them in the same manner that you would corn; out of a considerable number thus planted in a border scarcely one failed.

Preserving Vines from bugs.—A writer in the American Farmer remarks that "We last year adopted a contrivance (on the recommendation of another,) which I regard as of very great importance in the cultivation of melons. As soon as the young plants appeared, we put over them a box consisting of four pieces of shingles, or thin boards, nailed together, one foot long, and about eight inches broad—over the top of this box is stretched a thin piece of worn out muslin, or millinet, and the edges fastened with tacks to the side of the box. This cover, while it admits the air and light, protects the plants *effectually* from bugs and flies, and shields them from cold winds and frosts. The difference in the growth of the plants thus covered, and those which were left unprotected, was almost incredible, and I observed that while the latter were parched with the drought, the soil round the others was constantly moist, and their leaves in the morning were loaded with dew."

This device we have known put in practice with good success, and is in substance what we have recommended in a preceding article in this day's paper. To make assurance doubly sure, it might be well to scald the earth within the boxes with a decoction of elder, and thus preserve the seeds and young plants from worms as well as bugs.

Gas Lights.—A bill to incorporate a Gas Light Company, has passed both branches of the Legislature of New York. The practicability and economy of lighting streets and houses with gas is now fully established by repeated and successful trials. London and Liverpool, and many of the principal manufacturing towns in Great Britain, are lighted in this way. Hotels in Baltimore and Philadelphia are also supplied with gas lights, which are said to unite safety, economy and brilliancy, in a degree surpassing the expectations of those who introduced the improvement.

Don't scald your Poultry.—A writer in a Connecticut paper, remarks upon scalding poultry, as follows:—Scalded fowls are ill looking and will not sell for so much as those that are picked, and soon spoil, often before market; otherwise the feathers, although not of the first quality, will amply pay for plucking. By scalding, poultry is deprived of its delicious flavour, is made insipid, often producing what is termed rising on the stomach.

The application of Chemistry to the art of coloring (says the Providence Journal) is making rapid advances in this country. The artist is no longer obliged to grope in the dark for experience. Acquainted with those natural laws which are applicable to his profession, he goes on from one improvement to another with that confidence which is always inspired by knowledge.—Our blacks and blues are now as firm and brilliant as those of the best artists in Europe.

LATEST NEWS FROM EUROPE.

By a late arrival at New York, London papers have been received to the 5th, and Liverpool to the 7th of March. These rather increase than diminish the causes of apprehension of war between France and Spain.

The session of the extraordinary Cortes had been dissolved. They had previously decreed the removal of the King, and transfer of the seat of government, should invasion take place, to Cadiz. The King opposed this, and dismissed his ministers. As soon as this was known the populace assembled, and threatened to assault the palace. The king was alarmed and restored his ministers, and it is supposed that he will ultimately comply with their wishes. He sits upon a tottering throne, which probably a popular gust will eventually overturn.

Meeting of Parliament.—Parliament assembled on the 4th of February, and his Majesty's Message was read. In this it is stated that "his Majesty declined being a party to any proceedings at Verona, which could be deemed an interference in the internal concerns of Spain on the part of Foreign Powers. And his Majesty has since used, and continues to use, his most anxious endeavors and good offices to allay the irritation unhappily subsisting between the French and Spanish Governments; and to avert, if possible, the calamity of war between France and Spain." It is plain, therefore, that the British government does not approve of the conduct of the Congress at Verona with regard to Spain, and this is an important point gained by the Spaniards. If the British Lion does not rouse and shake himself on this occasion he must be a lazy old beast, and deserves to have his whiskers spun into rope yarn, his claws submitted to the operation of Safford's or Eastman's Straw Cutter, and his eye teeth knocked out with a mallet. A mere declaration on the part of Great Britain that she would make a common cause with Spain, would keep the restless French intermeddlers on their own side of the Pyrrenees, and the peace of Europe would be preserved without striking a stroke.

French Debates.—The French Assembly has had a stormy session. Many of its members reprobate the war, but the majority seem determined to plunge the two nations in a sea of blood, which threatens to overwhelm all Europe rather than not support the Bourbons. The "contagion" of Liberty they consider as more to be dreaded than the plague, and are determined to put a stop to its progress by destroying the patients already infected. It is to be hoped, however, that it will break out in the camps of the invaders, and cause their forces to wither like so many unrooted cabbage plants exposed to a burning meridian sun.

A friend to Liberty.—Manuel, a member of the French Chamber of Deputies, has made himself famous by his opposition to the unjust and nefarious *Crusade* against freedom in Spain. He attempted repeatedly to utter his sentiments, but was as frequently overpowered and his voice drowned by the hubbubs of the partizans of despotism. The people without, the spectators, and multitudes in the streets, cheered and applauded the efforts of Manuel, and it is the opinion of some sagacious observers that his exertions, together with the manner in which the populace have received him, will induce the French government to pause before they enter Spain, and perhaps cause the indefinite postponement of hostilities.

Oporto is now open to the admission of foreign grain; about 1600 tons had arrived; but such is the extent of the wants of the country, that it produced little or no impression on the markets. It is expected that Lisbon will also be opened. Barcelona has also been opened, for two months, from the 14th of February. There is no doubt but that scarcity exists in all the provinces of Spain and Portugal.

The Emperor of Russia arrived in the capital of his dominions on the 3d February, after an absence of six months. He immediately proceeded to the cathedral of our Lady of Cassan, where Te Deum was performed for his safe return. The city was illuminated in the evening.

Voyage of Discovery.—It has been reported that the vessels under Capt. Parry, which undertook to seek a north-west passage, had been seen in the Pacific ocean on their return, after having effected the object of their voyage. This report, however, we are sorry to observe, has been contradicted.

The Storm.—Papers from the South give sad accounts of the effects of the late storm. At Norfolk the thunder and lightning were very severe, with much rain and but little snow. In Philadelphia considerable damage was done to the shipping and wharves, and quantities of cord wood were floated away by the uncommonly high tide. The Democratic Press informs that "the sloop Tripler, with several smaller vessels, have *literally been ground to pieces.*" The N. York Mercantile Advertiser gives a long and deplorable account of disasters among the shipping and wharves, and several buildings on shore were likewise demolished by the fury of the equinoctial tempest.

Piracy and Murder.—Captain Robinson, of the brig Belvidere, from New Orleans, states, that the brig ——, Captain Perkins, of Kennebunk, arrived at the Balize on the 21st of March from Port au Prince, via. Campeachy. While at the latter port, Capt. Perkins' brig was boarded by a piratical schr. of about forty tons, manned with a crew of forty brutes in human shape, who stabbed Capt. P. in several places, and cut off his left arm. Capt. P. then made known where the pirates would find what money was on board, which amounted to about two thousand doubloons. Not satisfied with this, the murderers proceeded in their work of blood, and cut off the right arm, and one of his legs, above the knee. The inhuman monsters then dipped a quantity of oakum into the oil, and after filling the mouth of poor Perkins with this combustible, they placed him in the oakum, and setting fire to it, soon terminated his sufferings. The mate was stabbed through the thigh. The brig was robbed of every moveable article.

The French brig Jenne Henriette, from St. Jago de Cuba for Nantz, having been robbed of almost every thing on board, has put into Savannah. Two ladies, passengers in the schr. bound to New Providence which had been previously robbed, were put on board the French brig. The ladies have been robbed of every thing. One of them, with a small child by her side, had a rope put round her neck, and a knife held to her breast to enforce a disclosure whether any money was on board. The ladies suppose the crew to have been all murdered.

Capt. Harding, who arrived in Boston last Monday, in 12 days from Havana, left there, schr. Evergreen, Henry Upton, from Salem, just arrived—was chased out of the Bay of Matanzas, by two piratical boats, and in running down for Havana, threw over her deck load to get clear of a piratical sch. Brig Alert, of Portsmouth, from New Orleans, with a deck load of live hogs had just arrived. Off the Moro, she was boarded, in the knight, by two piratical boats, with six men each, and *Captain Charles Blunt, (of the Alert) was killed and thrown overboard!* The Cook was stabbed and thrown among the hogs, and nearly devoured by them, before being discovered and rescued. Several of the crew badly wounded, and the brig robbed.

Michael Doak Dennis, a foreigner, for many years on board of a man of war, but who had lately undertaken to preach the gospel, has been sentenced to three months imprisonment, for abusing and insulting a respectable married woman, at Newburyport, by using lewd and offensive language.

It is stated by the Georgetown Metropolitan, as an evidence of the pressure of the times, that there were fourteen hundred applications for the office of clerk in one of the departments, vacated by the death of a recent incumbent.

Mr. H. Traphegen, of Harsimus, N. J. raised last summer about 20,000 cabbage heads for this market, but not being able to dispose of the whole from his carts, he manufactured the residue into *sour krout*, which he now sells at from 8 to 10 dollars per barrel, for exportation to India.—*N. Y. American.*

Canals.—Our brethren of the Southern States (says the New York Statesman) will probably be surprized to learn that upwards of two thousand men have been at work upon our canals during the whole of the cold winter passed. In May next the number will be increased to six or seven thousand, and by October it is intended to open the navigation from Lockport to Albany, 330 miles. Thus we manage matters in this state.

ELECTION OF GOVERNOR, &c.

Last Monday was the day for the election of Governor, Lieut. Governor and Senators, throughout the State. The votes in this city were as follows:

Hon. H. G. Otis, 2836.——Hon. Wm. Eustis, 2728.

We have returns from 213 other towns, which give Otis 24,592—and Eustis 27,902. Maj. for E. 3,310.

SENATORS ELECTED.

Suffolk.—John Phillips, Thomas H. Perkins, Peter C. Brooks, Samuel Hubbard, Benjamin Gorham, and Thomas L. Winthrop.

Essex.—Nathaniel Silsbee, John Prince, William W. Parrott, Nathan Noyes, Aaron Lummus, and Moses Wingate.

Middlesex.—Joel Cranston, Levi Thaxter, Jno. Wade, Seth Knowles, John Keyes.

Norfolk.—John Ruggles, Josiah J. Fiske, Sherman Leland.

Sufficient returns have not been received to enable us to state who are elected in the other counties.

Distressing Accident.—David Dunham, Esq. a respectable merchant of New York, fell overboard from a sloop in descending North river, about forty miles above the city, and was drowned.

Miss Mary Davis, of Franklin county, N. C. lately wove a bag which will hold three bushels, without a seam. It was wove with three treadles.

New Potatoes of the growth of the present season, raised by Aaron Sisson, of Seekonk, were brought to town on Saturday, and served up at Horton's hotel, yesterday, at dinner. They were planted late in autumn, and covered with a layer of sea-weed and earth.

Providence Journal.

Postage.—A gentleman of Manchester, (Eng.) lately had to pay for a letter, one pound, fourteen shillings and ten pence. It contained a gown of the value of twelve shillings, sent as a present to his wife, and ordered through mistake "by post."

This reminds us of a member of Congress, not far from South Carolina, who franked Scott's Family Bible, and sent it in the mail from Washington to his wife.

The late Mr. Granger, while Post Master-General, availed himself of his privilege of travelling gratuitously in the Mail Coaches—but on one occasion the driver, not apprized of his station, told him that if he wished to go free, he must get *into* the mail. This expedient, which was totally impracticable, was fortunately unnecessary.

THE STATISTICAL ACCOUNT OF SCOTLAND, DRAWN up from the communications of the Ministers of the different parishes, by Sir John Sinclair, Bart. 21 vols. 8 vo. complete, only one copy; will be sold at the very reasonable price of $50.—Among 58 heads of inquiry addressed to each minister (the whole being too numerous for an advertisement) as a guide for their reports, are—Name, and its origin; description of the soil and surface; climate and diseases; instances of longevity; mode of cultivation; implements of husbandry; manures; seed time and harvest; quantity and value of each species of crop; total value of the whole produce of the district; wages and price of labor; manufactures; man. of kelp; police; roads and bridges; state of the Church, stipend, &c. number of the poor; parochial funds and the management of them; schools, and scholars; number of souls; cattle, nature and value; sheep do.; swine do. coal and fuel; antiquities; character of the people; advantages and disadvantages; means by which their situation could be meliorated. "No publication of "equal information and curiosity has appeared in G. "Britain since Doomsday Book; and that, from the "ample and authentic facts which it records it must "be resorted to by every future Statesman, Philosopher and Divine, as the best basis that has ever yet "appeared for political speculation."

Also—The Complete Grazier, &c. 1 vol. 8 vo.—American Orchardist—Cully on Live Stock—Farmer's Assistant—Farmer's Manual—American Gardener—Villa Garden Directory—Cox on Fruit Trees, &c. &c. For sale by R. P. & C. WILLIAMS, Cornhill Square, Boston. April 12.

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE, &c.

[Revised and corrected every Friday.]

		FROM D. C.	TO D. C.
ASHES, pot, 1st qual.	ton.	150 00	152 50
pearl do.		157 00	159 00
BEANS, white,	bush	1 00	1 10
BEEF, mess, 200 cwt.	bbl.	9 50	
cargo, No. 1.		8 00	8 50
" No. 2.		6 50	7 00
BUTTER, inspect. 1st qual.	lb.	14	15
" 2d qual.		12	13
small kegs, family,		15	16
CHEESE, new milk		7	8
FLAX		8	9
FLAX SEED	bush	85	90
FLOUR, Baltimore, superfine,	bbl.	7 50	7 62
Genessee		7 50	7 75
Rye, best		4 50	5 00
GRAIN, Rye	bush	80	83
Corn		65	68
Barley		63	65
Oats		42	45
HOGS' LARD, 1st sort	lb.	9	
HOPS, No. 1,		10	12
LIME,	cask	1 25	1 50
OIL, Linseed, American	gal.	65	70
PLAISTER PARIS	ton.	3 00	3 25
PORK, Navy Mess	bbl.	12 00	12 50
Bone Middlings		14 00	14 50
Cargo, No. 1,		12 00	12 50
Cargo, No. 2,		11 00	11 50
SEEDS, Herd's Grass	bush	2 25	2 50
Clover	lb.	8	9
WOOL, Merino, full blood, washed		58	65
do. do. unwashed		45	47
do. 3-4 washed		47	50
do. 1-2 do.		45	48
Native do.		38	40
Pulled, Lamb's, 1st sort		55	60
do. Spinning, 1st sort		47	50
PROVISION MARKET.			
BEEF, best pieces	lb.	8	12
PORK, fresh		6	9
VEAL,		6	10
MUTTON,		5	7
POULTRY,		10	12
BUTTER, keg & tub		15	16
lump, best		16	18
EGGS,	doz.	10	12
MEAL, Rye,	bush	85	90
Indian,		78	80
POTATOES,		37	
CIDER, liquor,	bbl.	1 50	
HAY, best,	ton.	20 00	22 00

SAFFORD'S STRAW CUTTER.

THE utility of cutting Hay, Straw, and other substances for feeding cattle, is now so universally acknowledged that any remarks on the subject must be deemed superfluous. The following Certificate will therefore be conclusive of the merits of the above mentioned Machine.

Boston, March 22, 1823.

We, the subscribers, have in operation a Straw Cutting Machine invented and exhibited in this city by Noah Safford, and we do not hesitate to say that in our opinion it exceeds any other we have ever seen, for cheapness, simplicity, despatch and durability.

Stephen Hartwell, Spurr & Holmes,
Hezekiah Earl, Andrew Slater.

☞ The above mentioned Machines may be had of J. R. NEWELL, at the Agricultural Establishment, No. 20, Merchant's Row, Boston. Price $15.

TERMS OF THE FARMER.

☞ Published every Saturday, at Three Dollars per annum, payable at the end of the year—but those who pay within *sixty days* from the time of subscribing will be entitled to a deduction of Fifty Cents.

☞ No paper will be discontinued (unless at the discretion of the Publisher) until arrearages are paid.

☞ Complete files from the commencement of the paper in August can be furnished.

From the Connecticut Herald.

AN ACRE OF CORN.—By Dr. Percival.

I am a poor Ploughman, who never have wander'd
Away from the sight and the pleasures of home;
I have always been prudent, and never have squander'd,
And so I have never been driven to roam.
For thirty long summers my shoulders have bended
In tilling the farm where my father was born;
I live under his roof, and this season have tended
With the plough that he left me, an acre of corn.

Though others may go to the Southward and peddle,
And bring home of guineas and dollars good store,
I never have desir'd with their crankums to meddle,
But to hoe in my garden that lies by my door.
When the sun is first rising I always am hoeing
The mould, when 'tis wet with the dews of the morn;
And when he is higher you will find me a mowing,
Or driving the plough in my acre of corn.

There are some who are crossing by sea to the island
They call Santa Cruze, with their horses and hay;
For my part, I'd rather be safe here on dry land,
And hoe in my garden, or work by the day.
I am out to the field with the sun, and am mowing
'Till called up at noon by the sound of the horn;
Or else I am twirling my hoe, and am throwing
The mould round the roots in my acre of corn.

This corn is the sort that is tufted and bowing,
And when we have thresh'd it, 'tis made into brooms;
Tis the best of all besoms, so far as I'm knowing,
To sweep out the dirt and the dust from our rooms:
They always have rais'd it, since I can remember,
And, my father once told me, before I was born
He made brooms for his trade, and I guess by December
I shall make up a load from my acre of corn.

AURORA BOREALIS, OR NORTHERN LIGHT.

(Concluded from page 288.)

It is known that the electrical fluid pervades every part of the earth and its atmosphere.—This substance, like all other fluids, has a tendency to become equally as well as universally diffused over all the objects and space which it pervades. The equilibrium, however, may, by various causes, be destroyed for a time. The process which nature institutes for restoring the equilibrium is sometimes carried on in a silent and invisible manner—sometimes it is accompanied with a hissing, or crackling noise, and sometimes it flashes in lightning and roars in thunder. A body which has more than its *natural quantity* of the electric fluid is said to be *positively* or *too much* electrified; and a body which has less than its natural quantity is *negatively* or *too little* electrified. These extremes may be produced by art. In turning the glass cylinder of an electric machine you deprive the rubber of its natural quantity of electricity, and it accumulates in the glass, and thus the former becomes *negatively*, and the latter positively electrified. By presenting a needle towards the conductor you will see a bright point near its extremity, and hear a hissing noise. This is the same phenomenon, on a small scale, with that which appears so wonderful in the aurora borealis.

It has been well ascertained that cold air, or cold substances, such as ice or snow, are positively electrified. Warm air, especially if it is moist, is negatively electrified, or a non-electric substance. Those substances which are positively electrified are perpetually giving out the electric fluid to all surrounding objects, and those which are negatively electrified are perpetually receiving the same fluid from objects about them. The same thing takes place with regard to caloric or the matter of heat. If a red hot iron is exposed to the atmosphere, suppose at the temperature of summer heat, it gives out caloric to the atmosphere; but a piece of ice, with the same exposure, would receive caloric from the atmosphere. And, in the same way, ice or snow, having a surplus of electric fluid, discharges a part into the atmosphere, when it is comparatively warm, and has of course a deficiency of the electric fluid. But if the earth be warmer than the atmosphere the former becomes non-electric and receives the electric fluid from the latter, as is generally the case in thunder storms, when some parts of the atmosphere must be intensely cold, which is apparent from the circumstance that such storms are often accompanied with hail, which could only be generated where the cold was extreme.

We shall attempt to make our meaning very obvious by adverting to some instances of the electric fluid rendered visible to the senses, in its passage from the earth into the atmosphere. On the 18th of Jan. 1817, in Andover, Vermont, there was a heavy fall of snow, accompanied with lightning and thunder. Joel Manning, Jr. Esq. of that place, in a communication for the Vermont Republican, states that during that storm, he, together with a companion observed "on the top of a stake in the fence, a light, resembling a blaze of fire, about two or three inches in length, though not so red and brilliant. We soon observed that on every stake was a light, and also on the highest branches of bushes by the side of the fence. This excited so much wonder and curiosity that we called the people of the house, and also some who were passing in the street, to see the phenomenon. We soon observed it on our hats, hair and mittens, when held up, not in the form of a blaze, but of bright white sparks of various sizes, from those which were just discernible to those of the size of buck shot. On one stake there were three of those blazes. On two or three stakes they emitted a sound resembling the hissing of a pot when it boils."

Similar appearances were observed in Putney, Vermont, during the descent of a moist snow, accompanied by a heavy clap of thunder, on the evening of the 3d of April, 1818. These phenomena, were, no doubt, auroræ boreales on a small scale, and resembled those which have been before mentioned as having occurred in Siberia, even to the "hissing or crackling noise" which has been represented as adding terror to the sublimity of their appearance.

It is undoubtedly the case that many of the prodigies recorded in ancient history were caused by apparitions of the electric fluid, similar to those above described. Streams of electric fire have been seen issuing from the points of the bayonets of soldiers passing the Alps and other mountainous places. Vessels at sea sometimes show their mast heads and yard arms illuminated as it were by magic, and men's heads have been seen surrounded with a halo of glory, such as painters represent about the head of a saint. These, as well as the northern and southern lights, are unquestionably among the modes by which electricity, that universal, all-powerful, but usually invisible agent sometimes makes itself manifest to our senses.

It has been generally supposed that northern lights were never seen or noted by the ancients. The first notice of them in English annals, according to Rees' Cyclopedia is an account of an appearance, Jan. 30, 1560, called "burning spears," by an author of that period. In this country they are said to have been first observed a little previous to the old French war. There is, however, but little doubt but the prodigies mentioned by ancient historians, such as armies in the sky, troops of celestial horsemen skirmishing in the heavens, &c. were nothing more than northern lights, magnified and shaped into fighting phantoms by fear and superstition. These were particularly noted as having appeared at the siege of Jerusalem, the death of Julius Cæsar, and other great and solemn occasions. The following from II Maccabees, ver. 2, 3, seem as remarkable, and are, perhaps, as vividly described as any recorded in ancient history.

"And then it happened, that through all the city, for the space of almost forty days, there were seen horsemen, running in the air, in cloth of gold, and armed with lances, like a band of soldiers.

"And troops of horsemen in array, encountering and running one against another, with shaking of shields, and multitude of pikes, and drawing of swords, and casting of darts, and glittering of golden ornaments, and harness of all sorts."

PROPOSALS,

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MORAL, SENTIMENTAL AND SATIRICAL.

BY SELLECK OSBORN.

THE author of the articles which are to compose this volume, never wrote with a view to fame or profit; he merely obeyed the impulse of the moment. Of those which were sent to the press he seldom retained copies; and they were usually forgotten by him, until recalled to his mind by public prints, which have often gratified him by flattering notice, but which have also frequently annoyed him by mutilations which were extremely mortifying. This last circumstance (besides private solicitations and other motives) has induced him to collect, with considerable pains, his scattered effusions, and to add some unpublished pieces; which altogether will have at least the merit of being genuine; and perhaps that of inculcating to the best of the author's capacity, good principles and amiable sentiments—excluding all matters relative to party politics.

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Communications to be addressed to the author at Merchants' Hall, Boston, Mass. April 5.

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FOR sale, by GEO. MURDOCK, No. 14, Market Square, a great variety of English and American GARDEN SEEDS, of the last year's growth; consisting of early Frame, Hotspur and Charlton Pease; early and late Cabbage; early and late Cauliflower; Sweet Marjoram, Thyme, &c. with every other Seed suitable for a Kitchen Garden. *Also*, 40 lbs. Mangel Wurtzel or Scarcity—100 lbs. Ruta Baga or Swedish Turnip—a quantity of Armack or Carrot. March 29.—6w